

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

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FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, XY

SUBJECT: CILSS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, NIAMEY

GHF: A. OECD PARIS 5782; B. NIAMEY 885

PARIS FOR WILLIAMS, US MISSION OECD

1. I CALLED ON MINISTER OF RURAL ECONOMY BAYERE MOUSSA MORNING MRACH 10 A) TO CHECK ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR CILSS MEETING NIAMEY MARCH 12-14, B) TO BRIEF MINISTER ON OUR EFFORTS TO ARRANGE FOR DONOR/BENEFICIARY COORDINATION FOR SAHELIAN DEVELOPMENT AND C) TO INFORM MINISTER ABOUT WILLIAMS VISIT.

2. BAYERE MOUSSA SAID CILSS MEETING WAS SCHEDULED TO GETO UNDERWAY MARCH 12 BUT HE COULD GIVE ME LITTLE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT CONFERENCE AND AGENDA BECAUSE CILSS PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE FOR ARRANGING MEETING HAD NOT AS YET SHOWN UP. MINISTER SEEMED PARTICULARLY MIFFED AT DAKOURE AND KONATE FOR THEIR LACKADAISICAL LEADERSHIP. NOTING THAT MEETING HAD BEEN POFYPONED FROM FEBRUARY 27-28 TO MARCH 12-14 AT REQUEST OF UPPER VOLTA ALLEGEDLY TO SUIT CONVENIENCE OF

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DAKOURE, BAYERE MOUSSA SAID HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN AND

HAD NOT AS YET CONTACTED GON. MINISTER ADDED THAT ONE OF PRINCIPAL TOPICS OF MEETING WOULD BE QUESTION OF DAKOURE'S SUCCESSOR SINCE CILSS STATUTES RESTRICTED TERM OF COORDINATOR TO TWO YEARS. I ASKED BAYERE MOUSSA IF NIGER HAD CANDIDATE AND HE SAID GON WAS CONSIDERING MATTER.

3. REGARDING DONOR/BENEFICIARY COORDINATION, I DREW ON STATE 25994 TO BRIEF BAYERE MOUSSA ON DAC INITIATIVE REGARDING

SAHEL LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. BAYERE MOUSSA RESPONDED FAVORBALLY ACKNOWLEDGING NEED FOR SUCH COORDINATION. AS FOR IDEA OF "CLUB DES AMIS DU SAHEL", BAYERE MOUSSA SAID HE WAS OPPOSED TO PROLIFERATION OF SAHELIAN ORGANIZATIONS BUT IF CCLSS DID NOT IMPROVE ITS PERFORMANCE, "CLUB DES AMIS" MIGHT BE USEFUL MECHANISM TO ACHIEVE DESIRED COORDINATION, IN WHICH CASE GON WOULD URGE THAT CLUB BE LOCATED IN NAIMEY.

4. REGARDING WILLIAMS VISIT I NOTED HE WAS COMING AT INVITATION OF DAKOURE. BAYERE MOUSSA SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING WILLIAMS AND SAW NO PROBLEM IN ARRANGING FOR WILLIAMS TO OUTLINE HIS PROPOSALS AT CILSS MEETING. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT MEETINGS ARE NORMALLY CLOSED AND SOME TIME WOULD HAVE TO BE FOUND AT SPECIAL OPEN SESSION FOR WILLIAMS PRESENTATION.HECK

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